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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Tractor Supply Company Is Open for Business in the City of Kankakee

Kankakee, IL – The fasting growing farm store in America has opened its doors and is now open for business in the City of Kankakee. Tractor Supply Company started in 1938 by Charles E. Schmidt from Chicago who started a mail order tractor parts business. The retail store was then founded in 1939 as it started to grow in North Dakota. Tractor Supply now sells a variety of products for farmers, tools, pet supplies, toys, automotive, clothing and more. Store Manager, Jamie Ackman, says the Kankakee retail store located off Kankakee exit 308 Riverstone Parkway is already an attractive location.

"A 50-foot sign is being built currently. We've been open for about a week now and already have had people who stop in the store and tell us that they saw us from the highway and was curious. That includes professional drivers who tell us it's convenient for them because it's right off the exit. We've seen a lot of customers," said Store Manager Jamie Ackman.

Attracting new businesses and visitors to the City of Kankakee is a long-term goal the City has been overseeing. Most recently, the City hired a new business attraction and retention coordinator who will work under the Economic and Community Development Agency (ECDA).

"The City of Kankakee is very unique in what we can bring to our community because we have a variety of aspects that are appealing to stakeholders and residents. We want to keep that trend growing and the opening of the new Tractor Supply is just a start to how we are continuing to move *Kankakee Forward*. The staff I spoke with today were very friendly and welcoming which will also appeal to our community" said Mayor Wells-Armstrong.

Team member, JoAnn Wenzelman, who's worked in retail for 30 years agrees, stating that she enjoys working at Tractor Supply because it's a smaller environment which makes it easy to make more personal connections with customers.

"We know the community and many of us are from around here. It's nice to see a familiar face and we needed this on this side of town," said Team Member JoAnn Wenzelman.

Tractor Supply in Kankakee is fully staffed with 15 employees; however, applications are still being accepted. The grand opening for the Tractor Supply Company will be tomorrow on November 2, 2019. As a special promotion, customers will receive 10% off their entire purchase.

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The City of Kankakee is dedicated to protecting, building and nurturing the community while enhancing lives. We are a historic, vibrant, and active riverfront community. We continue to transform into an extraordinary place to dream, grow, and thrive. Embracing our diversity, we strive to be progressive, inclusive, and innovative. For more information on the City of Kankakee, please visit the website at <a href="https://www.citykankakee-il.gov">www.citykankakee-il.gov</a>.